

PRICE ONE CENT.

NEW YORK, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1904.

PRICE ONE CENT.

LACK OF ENGINES AT ROCHESTER CAUSED LOSS OF 5 MILLIONS

Fierce and Quick Spreading Blaze Starts Early To-Day and Sweeps Through Several of Finest Buildings in Heart of Dry Goods District of the City.

Threatened to Be as Disastrous as Conflagration at Baltimore When It Was Checked with the Assistance of Sister Cities of Syracuse and Buffalo.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 26.—The worst conflagration in the history of Rochester started early to-day in the basement of the Rochester Dry Goods Company's store, at Nos. 156-166 Main street East, and has cost millions of dollars. The fire, which, according to the night watchman in the store, Thomas Connors, was discovered soon after it started, spread with such rapidity that by the time an alarm was turned in the entire front of the store was a mass of flames.

The Fire Department responded promptly. Assistant Chief Jaynes realized at once the dangerous nature of the fire and turned in a general alarm. By this time the flames had spread to the building occupied by the dry-goods firm of the Beadle & Sherburne Company.

Mayor Cutler this afternoon announced that the heavy loss was due solely to the fact that the city was not provided with an adequate quantity of fire apparatus. Efforts had been made for some time to supply this deficiency, but the money was not appropriated.

HELP SENT FROM SYRACUSE AND BUFFALO.

Chief Little arrived on the scene shortly after the general alarm was sounded. He realized that the flames were beyond the local Department and appeals for more fire apparatus were sent to the Chiefs of the Buffalo and Syracuse Departments. Four steamers arrived from Syracuse and four from Buffalo. They were greeted with cheers as they dashed from the railroad depots.

Within an hour after being discovered the fire had spread to the big Granite Building, occupied by the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company and by hundreds of business and professional men. Flames also spread to the buildings in the rear of the Granite Block.

The extreme cold made fire fighting difficult and hazardous, as the ladders were coated with ice. Assistant Chief Frank A. Jaynes was hurt about 5 o'clock and was removed to Hahnemann Hospital. He was struck in the head by a flying nozzle. This was the only accident of any consequence reported.

LOSS IS UP IN THE MILLIONS.

The loss is in the neighborhood of five to seven million dollars, most of which fell on the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company, the Beadle & Sherburne Company, the Rochester Dry Goods Company and the Walker Shoe Company.

The plans and estimates for the mammoth new block that the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company contemplate building in the spring are destroyed. The plans and estimates were in the architect's office in the tenth floor. The original plans and specifications for the new High School were also in this office and were destroyed. There are no duplicates of these plans and specifications.

Shortly after 5 o'clock a portion of the Kirley Building, occupied by the Rochester Dry Goods Company, fell. At 9 o'clock the front of the

(Continued on Second Page.)

HIS NECK BROKEN, CAPTAIN SEEKS BUT VICTIM LIVES \$250,000 DAMAGES

Newark Man Plunged Headlong Down a Flight of Stairs and Surprises Doctors by Surviving His Injuries.

(Special to The Evening World.) NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 26.—Andrew Vender, of No. 165 Ferguson street, city, lies at his home unconscious from a fracture of the vertebrae of his neck caused by a fall downstairs at a factory where he was employed. Despite the severity of his injuries there is outwardly no mark on him to indicate that he has been hurt, and he lies like one asleep, although his body is rigid.

The accident happened this afternoon. Vender was walking from the second to the first floor, when the heel of one of his boots caught in the stairway and threw him. He fell headlong down the stairs and his head struck the iron steps with great force.

He was picked up senseless, and doctors who were summoned declare that his neck had been broken.

They do not think he can possibly live and are surprised that he has survived to long.

Many mothers administer Plav's Cure for their children have spasmodic colic, etc.

George Cochran Broome, Army Officer, Sues Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Barbour for Alienating His Wife's Affections.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Capt. George Cochran Broome, of the United States Army, now stationed in Porto Rico, today filed in the District Supreme Court a suit for \$250,000 damages against James F. Barbour and his wife, Annie D. Barbour, of this city, for alleged alienation of the affections of Capt. Broome's wife. The Barbours are prominent socially here. Capt. Broome belongs to an old New York family and his wife was Miss Mary Keyworth Barbour, a step-daughter of Barbour.

Capt. Broome alleges that for more than six months the defendants have been harboring his wife and have refused to allow or permit him to see her or his child.

Capt. Broome alleges in his declaration that to deprive him of his wife's society the Barbours promised her \$100 a month if she would agree to live apart from him and to refuse to permit him to see the child, and by "malicious and wrongful representations" have induced his wife to refuse to see or return to him.

JAPANESE AND RUSSIAN FLEETS AND FORTS IN FIGHT AT PORT ARTHUR.

(Drawn from Cabled Description by W. G. Wood, The Evening World's Marine Artist.)



EXPLOSION PUTS GIRLS IN PERIL

Twenty of Them Have Narrow Escapes from Death in Fire in a Dyeing and Cleaning Factory, but All Are Saved.

A gasoline cleaning machine containing a great quantity of liquid fuel exploded this afternoon in the extension to the dyeing and cleaning factory of Schwarz & Forger, at Nos. 6 and 8 Manhattan avenue, a few doors from One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street. The entire building was immediately enveloped in flames, which soon spread to the neighboring glass factory of Leon Noel, at Nos. 401 and 403 West One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street, despite the efforts of the firemen to check them.

The cleaning factory is a two-story brick structure with a one-story extension. This extension is lined with sheet iron and a cement floor. In which the gasoline-cleaning machine was sunk. When the explosion took place there were twenty girls working on the second floor of the main building. The force of the explosion threw many of the young girl workers to the floor, but they managed to make their escape safely.

As far as the police can learn there was no one in the extension when the explosion occurred. Had there been they would have met instant death as even the sheet iron walls were torn out by the force of exploding oil.

A few minutes after the engines arrived there was a series of smaller explosions, supposed to be barrels of gasoline, that turned the small space that divides the cleaning factory from the gas factory into a roaring furnace. The three upper floors of the gas factory are let out to the Empire State Laundry, the New York Rag Company and the Clipper Manufacturing Company. These three concerns employed fifty girls, all of whom were at work when the fire started.

The great noise of the exploding gasoline machine, which was followed by volumes of black smoke pouring out about the adjoining building, created a wild panic among the girls, who fell over each other in their efforts to reach the stairway. A squad of reserves from the West One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street firehouse, around the corner from the fire, got them all out, however.

The firemen arrived the cleaning factory was a mass of blazing oil, so that all efforts were directed to saving the adjoining building. As there was a great quantity of oil to burn in a narrow space, the firemen arranged the flames, after a long battle with the flames, to subside the flames and save the glass factory. When the fire was extinguished it was found that three barrels of gasoline in the cellar under the cement flooring of the extension remained intact. The matching that exploded was the latest model of the kind and had been recently installed.

(Continued on Second Page.)

H. T. GRIFFIN SUSPENDED BY STEWARDS AT NEW ORLEANS

Young Turfman Uses Sharp Practice in Order to Get Good Odds on Sweet Pepper, and Stewards Have Decided Not to Accept His Entries.

RACE TRACK, NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 26.—Jockey Robbins will not sign a contract for the coming season until from Healy has heard from H. T. Griffin, Jr., who is in Europe. When Healy's answer comes, it is likely that a contract will be signed. Griffin, Jr., is a young man who has been in the turf for some time. He is known for his sharp practice in getting good odds on Sweet Pepper, and the stewards have decided not to accept his entries.

Griffin, Jr., is a young man who has been in the turf for some time. He is known for his sharp practice in getting good odds on Sweet Pepper, and the stewards have decided not to accept his entries.

(Continued on Second Page.)

HOT THIEF CHASE IN BUSY STREET

Mrs. Gardner Robbed of \$1,200 Worth of Jewels, Gives Alarm and Hundreds Join in Pursuit of Man.

There was an exciting chase after a thief this afternoon in Twenty-first street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, in which policemen, a large crowd of men on the street and an expressman driving a wagon joined. But with all these following the thief disappeared at Fifth avenue as if he had been swallowed up. A number of Central Office detectives are now searching the neighborhood for him.

To Mrs. M. E. Gardner, a dressmaker at No. 50 West Twenty-first street, for whom the thief worked, he was simply known as "Charlie." His friends called him "Shine." He is a young negro, who went to work for Mrs. Gardner yesterday as a porter.

This afternoon about 3:30 o'clock Mrs. Gardner went up to her living apartment, and in her bedroom found that her jewel case had been opened. A diamond crescent brooch, a charm with a diamond and pearl pendant, a gold purse, several rings, a card case and a number of other articles, valued in all at \$1,200, were gone.

Going downstairs Mrs. Gardner, who did not for a moment suspect her new porter, said to him:

"Charlie, I have been robbed. You watch in front while I call up Police Headquarters."

"Shine" was startled at this announcement, and even his suggestion that it would be better if she would not notify the police at once failed to arouse his suspicions. She went into the room to the telephone.

As soon as her back was turned "Shine" made a dash for the door and his heavy steps caused Mrs. Gardner to turn around. She saw him disappear into the street and quickly gave chase.

"Stop thief! Stop thief!" she cried, and passers-by were attracted to the spot.

An expressman who was sitting in his wagon near the store saw the negro racing toward Fifth avenue and whirling up his horse tried to overtake him. The block was full of people by this time and Patrolmen Byrne, of the West Thirtieth street station, also came. But "Shine" proved fleet of foot and left them behind.

Still racing towards Fifth avenue with the crowd yelling after him he reached that corner just before a mounted roundsmen rode up. The roundsmen turned his horse and waited for the thief to come up. Informed by them what the racket was all about, he turned with them to follow the negro. But he had disappeared and all efforts to find him in any of the neighboring buildings were futile.

Headquarters was then notified and sent Lano with a squad of detectives arrived, to help in the search for "Shine."

(Continued on Second Page.)

BLOODY BATTLE AT PORT ARTHUR, RUSSIANS SAY

Official Despatches Received To-Day at St. Petersburg Bear Out the News Sent by Major-Gen. Pflug Yesterday to the Effect That the Japs Had Been Repulsed at the Russian Stronghold.

TERRIFIC BATTLE WAS IN PROGRESS FOR THREE HOURS.

Big Japanese Fleet and the Russian Fleet in the Harbor as Well as the Great Forts Which Guard the Place Were Engaged in the Cannonade Which Resulted in the Drawing Back of the Invaders.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—The details promised by Major-Gen. Pflug of the attack by the Japanese on Port Arthur on Feb. 25 have been received here in a long official despatch. The despatch is now in the hands of the military authorities and when matters of an official nature have been censored it will be given to the public.

The report of the details confirms the assertion of the Russian authorities that it was the hardest conflict that has yet been fought at Port Arthur. The original statement of Major-Gen. Pflug that the Japanese were repulsed on all hands is confirmed.

On the side of the invaders there were twenty-three vessels of war. They approached Port Arthur soon after midnight and the battle opened in general at 1 o'clock in the morning, continuing for three hours and a half.

All the heavy guns commanding the entrance to Port Arthur were used by the Russian forces, as were the guns of the war vessels at the harbor's mouth.

JAPS SAY THAT THE RUSSIANS ARE BOTTLED.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, Feb. 26.—The Japanese Legation to-day gave out the following official despatch from Tokyo, dated Feb. 25:

"Early in the morning of Feb. 24 four oil vessels, escorted by some torpedo boat, were run into the entrance of Port Arthur for the purpose of blocking the mouth of the harbor. The object of sinking these vessels was attained and the officers and crews returned safely.

"Although there is no report regarding our fleet direct from Admiral Togo, no doubt can be entertained as to its safety."

CZAR'S SPEECH TO PRINCE KUROPATKIN.

(By Associated Press.) ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—A stirring manifesto to the army was issued by the Czar to-day in the form of a message to Gen. Kuropatkin, the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian army in the Far East, as follows:

"Although as head of the military administration since 1893 you have

(Continued on First Column Second Page.)

GUARDIAN NAMED FOR GOULD MINORS

Children of George J. and Edwin and Wife of Frank Figure in Friendly Suit Brought by Helen Gould to Buy Estate.

(Special to The Evening World.) WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Feb. 26.—A friendly suit, brought by Miss Helen Miller Gould in the Supreme Court of Westchester County against Howard Gould, Frank Gould, George Gould, the Countess De Castellane and other heirs to the Gould estate, so that she will be legally allowed to purchase Lyndhurst, the Jay Gould mansion at Irvington, has resulted in a guardian being appointed for some of the defendants.

To-day Justice Wilmet M. Smith appointed George H. Taylor, of Manhattan, guardian ad litem for Helen Margaret Gould, wife of Frank J. Gould, who is twenty years old and resides at No. 341 Fifth avenue. She has only a nominal interest through her husband, Helen Margaret Gould, a daughter of Frank Gould, who is seventeen months old, for Edwin Gould, Jr., and Frank Miller Gould, aged ten and five, respectively, sons of Edwin Gould, and for Kingdon, Jay, Marjorie, Helen A. Gould, Jr. and Edith Gould, children of George Gould.

Miss Gould owns considerable property at Irvington and as she is greatly attached to the home of her father she has arranged to purchase for something around \$300,000 the vast Gould estate. In order to make the title perfect the suit had to be brought, the estate divided and the heirs legally declared before a deed could be given.

MAY DEPOSE MRS. EYLER.

Gov. Murphy Not Satisfied with the Management of Girls' Home.

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 26.—Gov. Murphy has announced his intention of taking action in the case of Mrs. Myrtle B. Eyer, superintendent of the New Jersey home for girls. The Governor says he considers the recent management of the home so lax as to warrant Mrs. Eyer's removal.

He is to be effected by a reorganization of the board of managers of the home.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Forecast for the thirty-six hours ending at 8 P. M. Saturday for New York City and vicinity: Rising temperature with snow to night, and snow or rain Saturday; northeast to southeast winds, becoming fresh and brisk.

Not a "Cough Syrup" or "Balm." See John's Medicine Cures Colds.